

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02866 250624Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 /059 W

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R 241525Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8234

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC; NL

SUBJ: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR DEANE R. HINTON TO THE NETHERLANDS

1. EMBASSY VERY MUCH APPRECIATED VISIT OF US AMBASSADOR TO EC DEANE R. HINTON MAY 19-20. VISIT PROVIDED WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MATTERS RELATIVE TO EC AND MORE PARTICULARLY ON PROSPECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS DURING DUTCH PRESIDENCY OF EC-9.

2. IN AMSTERDAM AMBASSADOR HINTON BRIEFED US DELEGATION TO THE FIFTH US-EC AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE CO-SPONSORED BY THE US CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE COMMITTEE OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (COPA) AND THE GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (COGECA) ON MAY 19. (US DELEGATION, CHAIRED BY RALPH HOFSTAD, PRESIDENT, LAND-O-LAKES, INC., WAS COMPOSED OF A CROSS-SECTION OF PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN WHOSE INTERESTS ARE BASICALLY AGRICULTURE.) AMBASSADOR GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY, ITS FINANCIAL SITUATION COLLECTIVELY AND BY MEMBER STATES, ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH AND WEAKNESSES VIS-A-VIS PERSONALITY SHIFTS IN THE OFFING, PARTICULARLY THAT OF THE AGRICULTURE MINISTER, ITS TRADE POLICIES AND PROBLEMS BOTH EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL, ESSENTIALLY IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE AND RESPONDED TO PRESSING

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PAGE 02 THE HA 02866 250624Z

QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY NONFAT DRY MILK MIXING SCHEME AND GSP

ON TOBACCO.

3. AMBASSADOR GOULD HOSTED A SMALL LUNCHEON AT THE RESIDENCE MAY 20 ATTENDED BY THREE KEY DUTCH MFA OFFICIALS, DIRECTOR OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DIRECTORATE COHEN STUART, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION BERGMAN, AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS DE GROOTH. STATE SECRETARY LAURENS BRINKHORST WAS PREVENTED FROM COMING AT THE LAST MOMENT BECAUSE OF AN UNFORESEEN CABINET MEETING. THE OCCASION PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR AMBASSADOR HINTON TO LAY ON THE TABLE AMERICAN CONCERNS ABOUT PROTECTIONISM TO WHICH THE DUTCH GUESTS RESPONDED THAT PRACTICAL AND PRAGMATIC ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE US WAS NOT ONLY DESIREABLE BUT POSSIBLE.

4. LATER THAT AFTERNOON AMBASSADOR HINTON PARTICIPATED IN THE EUROPE-AMERICA CONFERENCE OF YOUNG EUROPEAN FEDERALIST. AFTER SPEECH BY STATE SECRETARY BRINKHORST, AMBASSADOR HINTON COVERED SUBJECTS OF US-EC RELATIONS, ROLE OF WESTERN ALLIANCE AND CONCLUDED BY DISCUSSING PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE POSED FOR NATO AND EC SHOULD COMMUNISTS ENTER WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS. HIS REMARKS WERE RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTICALLY. GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976THEHA02866
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760202-0435
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760519/aaaaaqhv.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR DEANE R. HINTON TO THE NETHERLANDS
TAGS: OTRA, NL, US, EEC, (HINTON, DEANE R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006